

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION encouraging the development of clinically sound protocols and management strategies to address latex allergies and the education of health care workers and patients about latex allergies.

Brown C

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION encouraging the development of clinically sound protocols and management strategies to address latex allergies and the education of health care workers and patients about latex allergies.

Whereas, The Indiana Legislative Council directed the Interim Study Committee on Health Issues to study the use by health care providers of powdered latex gloves;

Whereas, The Interim Study Committee on Health Issues heard, at its July 29, 1998, committee hearing, testimony regarding the use by health care providers of powdered latex gloves and testimony concerning the health concerns associated with the use of powdered latex gloves;

Whereas, Some people experience allergic reactions when exposed to natural rubber latex products, and those reactions range from minor skin irritation and rashes to severe hypersensitivity reactions;

Whereas, Natural rubber latex gloves protect the health of patients and health care workers by providing highly effective barrier protection against the transmission of bloodborne pathogens, including the hepatitis B and C viruses and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV);

Whereas, Powdered natural rubber latex gloves possess a unique mix of properties that make them the barrier of choice for most health care professionals against deadly infectious agents and, according to the federal Food and Drug Administration, no other gloves possess the unique



properties (high elasticity and tensile strength and excellent tactile sensation) found in natural rubber latex gloves;

Whereas, For nearly a decade, federal laws and regulations have existed to regulate the use of natural rubber latex gloves; and

Whereas, The Committee heard testimony from health care providers that health care providers are actively establishing clinically sound protocols and management strategies to alert and educate health care workers and patients of the implications of latex allergies: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That we believe that a ban on the use of powdered
- 2 latex gloves is not a viable solution to address the problems associated
- 3 with latex allergies.
- 4 SECTION 2. That we are sensitive to the implications of latex
- 5 allergies, but that we believe that natural rubber latex allergy is best
- 6 managed through a combination of education, training, and product
- 7 innovation.
- 8 SECTION 3. That we believe that Indiana health care providers
- 9 and the medical device manufacturing industry should work diligently
- 10 to establish clinically sound protocols and management strategies to
- 11 address latex allergies and to aggressively educate health care workers
- 12 and patients about latex allergies.

